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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ashvin H. Desai
Serial No.: 09/547,708
Filing Date: April 11, 2000
For: **SECURE STENT FOR MAINTAINING A LUMENAL OPENING**

Docket No. 10284-0257906
Group Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: Pellegrino, B.

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
SEP 16 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 1, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests that the Application be amended as follows:

In the Specification:

1. Please replace page 6, lines 20-21, with the following:

B₁
Fig. 3 shows the use of a thin sheet material 30 to form a stent 32. The perforations 34 are optional. The slot 36 allows the stent 32 to be readily collapsed for insertion and removal.

2. Please replace the Abstract (page 21, lines 1-21) with the following:

B₂
A secure stent for maintaining a lumenal opening. The diameter of the stent is configured with each end enlarged providing flanges for interference with a lumen wall. The central portion of the stent is also bulged out to an increased diameter to provide an enhanced lumen wall resistance to avoid migration. The stent is preferably constructed from polymers, including bioabsorbable polymers, and/or super elastic materials. The bioabsorbable polymer construction aids removal by causing the tube diameter to collapse. Removal of the stent can therefore be accomplished by simply grasping the proximal end of the stent. Alternatively, the stent is constructed entirely of bioabsorbable material and is eventually entirely absorbed, avoiding the need for removal.

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